

Superfund National Accomplishments Summary Fiscal Year 2013

The Superfund program is advancing EPA's "Meeting the Challenge Ahead" themes championed by Administrator Gina McCarthy. Superfund cleanups **Make a Visible Difference in Communities across the Country** by protecting the human health and environments of thousands of U.S. communities affected by uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Through our [Superfund Redevelopment Initiative](#), we contribute to the economic vitality of those communities through job creation and the return of sites to productive use. With contaminated groundwater and sediment cleanups occurring at a majority of sites, Superfund is **Protecting Water: A Precious, Limited Resource**. Close coordination with state, tribal and local governments on cleanup activities, including the determination of site-specific future land use, is an ongoing hallmark of the Superfund program in keeping with the **Launching [of] a New Era of State, Tribal and Local Partnerships**. We will continue **Taking Action on Toxics and Chemical Safety** by applying the best available science when determining site-specific risk-based cleanup levels. We are **Addressing Climate Change and Improving Air Quality** and **Working toward a Sustainable Future** through implementation of the [Superfund Climate Change Adaption Action Plan](#) and by encouraging the consideration of the [ASTM International's Standard Guide for Greener Cleanups](#) as well as through continued implementation of the Superfund [Green Remediation Strategy](#). Finally, we are **Embracing EPA as a High Performing Organization** by adopting the [Superfund Program Review's](#) recommended actions, which seek to minimize the adverse consequences of recent budget cuts by identifying and implementing program efficiencies.

Protecting communities' health and ecosystems remains the Superfund Remedial program's top priority

- Increased the total number of sites where EPA actions controlled a potential or actual exposure risk to humans by 13, bringing the program's cumulative total to 1,389 National Priorities List (NPL) sites where exposure is under control.
- Increased the total number of sites where EPA actions controlled the migration of contaminated groundwater through engineered remedies or natural processes by 18, bringing the program's cumulative total to 1,091 NPL sites where contaminated groundwater migration is under control.

EPA's Superfund Remedial program obligated more than \$333 million to perform construction and post-construction activities

- Obligated more than \$333 million in appropriated funds, state cost-share contributions and potentially responsible party (PRP) settlement resources for construction and post-construction projects.

Superfund safeguarded communities from imminent threats posed by hazardous substances

- Completed or provided oversight at 304 removal actions to address immediate and substantial threats to communities.

EPA's Superfund Remedial program funded new construction

- Started 58 new remedial construction projects, including 16 EPA-funded projects and 42 PRP-funded projects, and continued to conduct or provide oversight at more than 400 remedial construction projects started in prior fiscal years. EPA was unable to proceed with new construction work at 22 NPL sites with projects ready to start construction in FY 2013.

EPA's Superfund Remedial program actively cleaned up hazardous waste sites

- Completed all physical construction of the cleanup remedy at 14 sites across the country for a total of 1,156 sites, or approximately 69 percent of NPL sites.
- Completed 122 remedial action projects. These projects are the essential building blocks to achieving overall site cleanup; their completion demonstrates progress in reducing risks to human health and the environment at sites.

EPA's Superfund Remedial program prepared land for return to productive use, contributed to local economies and delivered job readiness training

- Ensured 56 NPL sites had all long-term protections, including institutional controls, in place necessary for anticipated use, bringing the cumulative total of sites ready for anticipated use to 662 (470,000 acres).
- Provided job training at two Superfund sites through EPA's Superfund Job Training Initiative (SuperJTI), an environmental remediation job readiness program providing job training to citizens living in communities affected by Superfund sites. SuperJTI graduates have the technical skills to work on a broad range of projects in environmental remediation and construction as well as the cleanup of Superfund sites. EPA's goal is to help communities develop job opportunities and partnerships, which remain long after a Superfund site is cleaned up.

EPA's Superfund Remedial program prepared for future cleanup efforts

- Completed 772 remedial site assessments, for a cumulative total of 92,282 remedial assessments completed since the program's inception in 1980. Placed 9 new sites on the NPL, and proposed 9 sites to the NPL. The NPL had, at the end of FY 2013, 54 proposed sites and 1,685 final and deleted sites; EPA may delete a final NPL site if it determines that no further response is required to protect a community's health or environment.
- Selected 61 cleanup remedies, amended 14 cleanup plans, and issued 36 explanations of significant differences.
- Obligated more than \$210 million in appropriated funds, state cost-share contributions, and PRP settlement resources to conduct and oversee:
 - Site assessments and investigations;
 - Selection and design of cleanup plans; and
 - Support for state, tribal, community involvement activities, and other activities.

EPA's Superfund Remedial program ensures the long-term protection of communities' health and ecosystems after construction is complete

- Conducted 233 five-year reviews, including 30 reviews at Federal facility sites, to ensure site remedies remain protective.
- Deleted 11 sites from the NPL, and at 2 other sites, deleted a portion of the site from the NPL.

Superfund remains committed to the "polluter pays" principle

- Secured private party commitments of nearly \$1.6 billion in FY 2013 to fund cleanup work. Of this amount, EPA obtained commitments from responsible parties to invest an estimated \$1.2 billion in Superfund site studies and cleanups; responsible parties agreed to reimburse the Agency for more than \$292 million spent cleaning up Superfund sites; and EPA billed private parties for approximately \$93 million in oversight costs.

[Unfunded New Construction Projects](#)

Disclaimer: These accomplishments represent a "snapshot in time" (as of 9/30/13) and future numbers may change based on data quality reviews, updates and corrections.